

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 705
By Cooper

A RESOLUTION to urge the United States Congress not to take action to mandate competition in the retail or wholesale of electricity without careful consideration of the interest of the Tennessee Valley.

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee is almost entirely within the service area of the Tennessee Valley Authority ("TVA"), and, with one exception, all electric power in Tennessee is generated by the TVA and distributed by public power companies or electric cooperatives; and

WHEREAS, the TVA has provided electric power to the State of Tennessee and to the Tennessee Valley since its inception in 1933; and

WHEREAS, in the last few years, considerable interest has arisen in the deregulation of the sale of electricity in the United States; and

WHEREAS, each state, including Tennessee, has unique electric power supply sources and demand requirements that cannot readily be accommodated by a federally mandated national time period for full competition; and

WHEREAS, wholesale or retail electric power competition in the Tennessee Valley is possibly completely dependent upon congressional decision with regard to the TVA; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee has created a special study committee for the review of issues arising from the possible deregulation of the electric power industry in Tennessee; and

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WHEREAS, the Electric Deregulation Study Committee has devoted many hours over the last year to the study of the potential impact of the deregulation of the electric power industry in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, it has become clear to the members of the Electric Deregulation Study Committee that the federal government does not have the knowledge or resources necessary to determine completely the particular needs of the consumers of electric power in the state of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That the members of this General Assembly strongly urge the Congress of the United States not to take action to mandate competition in the retail or wholesale of electricity without special and careful consideration of the interests of the people of the Tennessee Valley.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the timing for deregulation be left to the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, consistent with the congressional action necessary to allow competition in the Tennessee Valley.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation to the President of the United State Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, each United States Senator and each United States Representative representing the State of Tennessee, the Secretary of the United States Department of Energy and to the President and Vice-President of the United States.